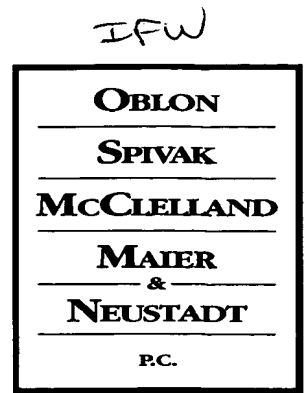




Docket No.: 243117US0

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/667,786
Applicants: Martin DIETERLE, et al.
Filing Date: September 23, 2003
For: HETEROGENEOUSLY CATALYZED GAS-PHASE
PARTIAL OXIDATION OF ACROLEIN TO
ACRYLIC ACID
Group Art Unit: 1754
Examiner: Karl J. Puttlitz

SIR:

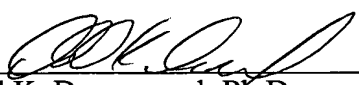
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Preliminary Amendment

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



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DOCKET NO: 243117US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
MARTIN DIETERLE, ET AL. : EXAMINER: KARL J. PUTTLITZ
SERIAL NO: 10/667,786 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 23, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1621
FOR: HETEROGENEOUSLY :
CATALYZED GAS-PHASE
PARTIAL OXIDATION OF
ACROLEIN TO ACRYLIC ACID

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.